



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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J. W.
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In re the Application of

Inventors: Wm. R. VAN ETTEN et al.

Examiner: D.E. Kerr

Appln No.: 09/604,472

Art. Unit: 3625

Filed: June 27, 2000

For: INFORMATION TRANSLATION COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed August 20, 2002, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-16, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claim 17 to read as follows (Exhibit I contains the claim showing changes made):

17. (Amended) A procurement system for a buyer to purchase a desired item, said system comprising:

a first catalog database accessible to said buyer lacking said desired item;

a second catalog database, wherein each unique catalog item stored within said second catalog is identified with respect to class, attribute, and value relationships; and

an item selection procedure, said procedure relying on said relationships to search for the desired item within said second database when it is not located within said first database.

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